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Agenda item 8

Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-sixth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Valery Zhdanovich (Belarus)

Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2008-2009

(Item 3 (b))

Programme 26

Jointly financed activities

1. At its 18th meeting, on 29 August 2006, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 26, Jointly financed activities, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/61/6 (Prog. 26)).
2. The representatives of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. General support was expressed for the programme. The value and importance of the activities proposed in programme 26 were recognized.
4. Regarding component A, International Civil Service Commission, the importance of the independence of the Commission was stressed. Clarification was sought with respect to the study on further development and strengthening of a common system of salaries, allowances and benefits as mentioned in paragraph 26.2 (a) of the report. Clarification was also sought with respect to the use of the word "maintenance" rather than "increase" in the indicators of achievement.



5. Regarding component B, Joint Inspection Unit, satisfaction was expressed with respect to the reference to coordination with other organs to avoid duplication and achieve synergies under paragraph 26.5 (c).

6. Regarding component C, United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), the view was expressed that the formulation of the framework was vague. Further information was sought on how to improve dialogue and cooperation between CEB and the Committee. With respect to the overall orientation, it was noted with concern that the Board's focus had shifted from "promoting greater synergies" in the biennium 2006-2007 to "greater coherence among the organizations". The use of the phrase "human security" was questioned in view of the lack of agreement among Member States on this phrase. It was further stressed that CEB should continue to enhance and monitor system-wide efforts to fight poverty and hunger. With respect to expected accomplishment (a), concern was expressed with respect to the change from "increased collaboration and coordination among member organizations in response to decisions of intergovernmental bodies" in the biennium 2006-2007 to "enhanced horizontal cooperation". A question was raised as to whether indicator of achievement (a) could be used to evaluate the related expected accomplishment.

Conclusions and recommendations

7. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 26, Jointly financed activities, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:

C. United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

Overall orientation

Paragraph 26.7

Delete the first sentence and insert the following text: "26.7 In the biennium 2008-2009, CEB will focus its work on accelerating progress in the implementation of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992. To this end, CEB will ensure greater coherence among the organizations of the system."

In the second sentence, replace the words "better managing knowledge" with "improving knowledge management".

Delete the third sentence.

After the former fourth sentence, add a new sentence reading "CEB will continue to enhance and monitor the effective coordination of system-wide efforts against hunger and poverty."

In the penultimate sentence, replace the words "increased platforms" with the words "improved platforms".

In the last sentence, replace the words "mutual aims" with the words "common goals" and replace the word "dynamic" with the word "timely".

and delete the words "and the provision of system-wide analysis of emerging challenges that will assist Member States in taking decisions relevant to the work of the system".

Expected accomplishments

Revise expected accomplishment (a) to read: "Enhanced horizontal cooperation among member organizations in response to decisions of intergovernmental bodies".

Indicators of achievement

Reletter indicator (a) as (a) (i) and add a new indicator (ii) reading: "(ii) Number of joint or complementary programmes and projects with strategic impact, task-specific inter-agency networking, time-bound working groups and other facilitating initiatives and activities to strengthen system-wide follow-up to intergovernmental decisions".